

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05

EB-07 OMB-01 PC-01 /078 W

----- 040072

R 011452Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 486

DIA WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU

/AMEMBASSY LONDON 6220

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMCONSUL DOUALA

AMCONSUL KADUNA

AMCONSUL IBADAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PINS, PINT, NI

SUBJECT: HEAD OF STATE SWEARS IN NEW STATE GOVERNORS:

REFERS TO ALLEGATIONS THAT THEIR PREDECESSORS

WERE CORRUPT

REF: LAGOS 7254

1. AT A WELL-PUBLICIZED CEREMOY AT DODAN BARRACKS YESTERDAY, BRIG. MURTALA RUFAT MOHAMMED ADMINISTERED OATHS OF OFFICE TO TEN OF THE NEWLY APPOINTED STATE GOVERNORS.

2. IN A SHORT SPEECH TO THE GOVERNORS MOHAMMED REFERRED TO QTE WIDESPREAD DISSATISFACTION OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC UOQTE WITH THE PERSONAL CONDUCT OF THEIR PREDECESSORS. HE SAID HTERE WERE ALLEGATIONS OF GRAFT AND MISUSE OF PUBLIC FUNDS, COMPLAINTS OF OSTENTATIOUS LIVING, AND ABUSE OF OFFICES INCLUDING CHARGES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF NEPOTISM, FAVORITISM AND HUMILIATION OF TRADITIONAL

RULERS WHICH GAVE IMPRESSION THAT
STATES WERE BEING RUN AS PRIVATE ESTATES.

3. MOHAMMED WENT ON TO ADMONISH NEW GOVERNORS TO BE FAIR,
FIRM AND DECISIVE AND CREATE A NEW IMAGE AMONG THE PEOPLE
FOR THE MILITARY ADMINISTRATION. HE REITERATED HIS GOVERNMENT
WOULD NOT TOLERATE ABUSE OF POWER.

4. PRESS TODAY REPORTS THAT SOME OF THE FORMER GOVERNORS
SEEN YESTERDAY LEAVING THEIR OFFICIAL RESIDENCES AND SAYING
FAREWELL TO THEIR STAFFS.
COMMENT: FROM TONE OF MOHAMMED'S SPEECH TO NEW GOVERNORS,
IT APPEARS EVIDENT THAT THERE WILL BE NEW RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN
STATE HEADS AND HEAD OF STATE. THE GOVERNORS OF THE NEW
REGIME WILL BE SUBORDINATE TO THE SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL
AND NOT PART OF IT. INSTEAD, THEY WILL APPARENTLY SIT ON
COUNCIL OF STATES WHICH PRESUMABLY WILL ACT IN AN ADVISORY
CAPACITY TO CENTRAL GOVERNMENT.
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